

Paralysis. The success of the Foundation and its president, Mr. Basil O'Connor, in maintaining public interest over the years and in providing financial support for an intensive, persistent and diversified research program is an inspiring case history of democracy in action.

The discovery of the Salk vaccine is a story of millions of Americans giving freely of their dimes and dollars in a great cause. It is a story of dedicated and painstaking effort by many thousands of scientists, of an historical and brilliant achievement by one of them, Dr. Jonas Salk.

This meeting would not have been possible without the magnificent work of Dr. Thomas Francis Jr., and his group who conducted the mass test last year, nor of the pioneering efforts of such men as Dr. John Enders, of Harvard and Dr. David Bodian of Johns Hopkins. And this meeting could not go forward without the leaders from America's great pharmaceutical and biological products industry who are present. Their faith in the vaccine prior to the final knowledge of its efficacy and their willingness to undertake production on a large scale in the hope that lives might be saved this year instead of next is a stirring example of vision and courage.

It is our hope that you are prepared to present essential facts and recommendations which you have developed by reason of your specialized qualifications and viewpoints. Here are the essential facts as we see them.

After many years of patient, dedicated investigation by many individuals and groups, a safe and effective vaccine against poliomyelitis has been developed by Dr. Salk. The proof and efficacy of the vaccine's safety was not at hand until ten days ago.

In the hope that the age-old annual toll of young lives and limbs might be reduced, if not completely checked this year, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis and several leading manufacturers of